

## CHIEF CLERK.

JOEL W. BOOTH, of Decatur, Wise county, was born at Bolivar, Tennessee, November 22, 1844; moved with his parents to Rienzi, Mississippi, in 1847, and to Texas in 1870, locating at Decatur. Received his education principally at Union University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and at Semple Brounus University, Center Hill, Mississippi. Commenced the practice of law at Greensboro, Mississippi, in 1866, and was mayor of that town during the same year, and county attorney of Choctaw county in 1867. Moved to Winona, Mississippi, and commenced the publication of the *Winona Democrat* in 1868, and continued it until he removed to Texas. Was mayor of Decatur in 1877 and 1878. In January, 1879, was elected Reading Clerk of the House in the Sixteenth Legislature, and in 1881 was re-elected to the same position in the Seventeenth Legislature. Was temporary chairman of the Democratic State Convention, at Galveston, in July, 1882, and was elected Chief Clerk of the House of the Eighteenth Legislature on January 9, 1883, without opposition. Mr. Booth has always been a consistent, straightout Democrat, and takes a prominent and active part in every canvas in his district and section. He served throughout the war in the Army of Virginia.